

CLAIMS

1. A bread improving agent comprising fermented soybean protein fermented by lactic acid bacteria and yeast.

2. The bread improving agent of claim 1, wherein the lactic fermentation is performed substantially simultaneously or before the yeast fermentation.

3. The bread improving agent of claim 1, wherein the lactic acid bacteria used for the lactic fermentation is derived from sour leaven.

4. The bread improving agent of claim 1, wherein the fermented soybean protein is obtained by further reacting a protease with the soybean protein.

5. The bread improving agent of claim 1, which has a pH of 4.0 to 4.8.

6. The bread improving agent of claim 1, which is sterilized.

7. Bread comprising the bread improving agent of claim 1.

8. The bread of claim 7, wherein the bread improving agent is added in an amount of 0.35 to 3.5 parts by weight in terms of a soybean solid content based on 100 parts by weight of cereal flour for bread.

9. A process for producing bread which comprises mixing fermented soybean protein fermented by lactic acid bacteria and yeast with cereal flour for bread to prepare

dough.